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UTILITY
PATENT APPLICATION
TRANSMITTAL(Only for new nonprovisional applications under
37 C.F.R. 1.53(b))

Attorney Docket No.

2825.1013002

First Named Inventor or
Application Identifier

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Express Mail Label No.

EL387865125US

Title of
InventionTARGETS OF THE MAP KINASE PATHWAY IN THE DEVELOPMENTAL
SWITCH IN YEAST

APPLICATION ELEMENTS

See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.

ADDRESS TO:

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1. ☐ Fee Transmittal Form
(Submit an original, and a duplicate for fee processing)
2. ☒ Specification [Total Pages [16]]
(preferred arrangement set forth below)
- Descriptive title of the invention
 - Cross References to Related Applications
 - Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D
 - Reference to microfiche Appendix
 - Background of the Invention
 - Summary of the Invention
 - Brief Description of the Drawings
 - Detailed Description
 - Claim(s)
 - Abstract of the Disclosure
3. ☒ Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets [11]]
[] Formal [X] Informal
4. ☐ Oath or Declaration/POA [Total Pages []]
- a. ☐ Newly executed (original or copy)
 - b. ☐ Copy from a prior application (37 C.F.R. 1.63(d))
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[NOTE Box 5 below]
 - i. ☐ DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)
Signed statement attached deleting
inventor(s) named in the prior
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The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a
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8. ☐ Assignment Papers (cover sheet & documents)
9. ☐ 37 C.F.R. 3.73(b) Statement [] Power of Attorney
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☐ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No.:

Prior application information: Examiner:

Group Art Unit:

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DMH/LMT
11/12/99

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Date: <u>11/12/99</u> Express Mail Label No. <u>EL387865125US</u>

Inventors: Hiten D. Madhani
Attorney's Docket No.: 2825.1013002

TARGETS OF THE MAP KINASE PATHWAY IN THE DEVELOPMENTAL SWITCH IN YEAST

RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application 60/108,399,
5 filed November 13, 1998, and U.S. Provisional Application 60/114,849, filed January 6,
1999. The entire teachings of these applications are incorporated herein by reference.

GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

Work described herein was supported, in whole or in part, by National Institutes
of Health Grant Number GM 40266. The United States Government has certain rights
10 in the invention.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Two related developmental events, haploid invasive growth and diploid
pseudohyphal development, are controlled by the Kss1 MAP kinase pathway in yeast.
Haploid invasive growth occurs on rich medium, whereas filamentation in the diploid
15 cell type requires nitrogen starvation. The diploid pathway results in dramatic cell
elongation, which is not seen in haploids. These pathways serve as models for similar
transitions in pathogenic fungi.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Wild yeast are often found in association with plants, particularly rotting fruit. Not surprisingly, many bacterial and plant fungal pathogens secrete pectin-degrading enzymes, including polygalacturonases. These are thought to be key virulence factors.

- 5 In the bacterial pathogen *Erwinia chrysanthemi* there exists an elaborate interaction between the host and the pathogen in which the breakdown product of pectin, galacturonic acid, signals large changes in the expression of the pectinolytic machinery. To examine whether a similar interaction with the host might be occurring in yeast, global profiling experiments of gene expression in the presence of polygalacturonic acid
10 or galacturonic acid were carried out.

- Described herein is assessment of targets of the MAP kinase (MAPK) pathway in the developmental switch between haploid invasive growth and diploid pseudohyphal development in yeast, and identification of genes that show strong regulation by a MAPK pathway-specific transcription factor, Tec1. Also described herein are results of
15 examination of expression profiles after administration of polygalacturonic acid (the main component of pectin) or galacturonic acid (the breakdown product of pectin), as well as the results of detailed studies of PGUI, a pectinase, which was shown to be the most strongly regulated target of the MAPK pathway.

- Also described are global profiling experiments of gene expression in yeast
20 which were carried out to examine whether a host-yeast interaction occurs in which the breakdown product of pectin signals or causes changes in the expression of components of the pectinolytic machinery. As discussed herein, results of these profiling experiments showed that both polygalacturonic acid and galacturonic acid altered gene expression in yeast, and that the patterns were distinct from those that would have been
25 expected from the effects of all other sugars that have been studied in yeast (e.g., glucose, galactose, maltose, etc.), demonstrating the specificity of the response. Galacturonic acid, the breakdown product of pectin, was shown to cause strong repression of TOT10/YEL033W, a gene which is turned on in the filamentation MAPK pathway and is required for invasion and filamentation. Thus, a regulatory circuit in

yeast, in which a signal from the host (in the form of or mediated by galacturonic acid) feeds back on the filamentation/invasion pathway, has been identified, and a specific interaction between yeast and its host (e.g., a plant host) has been demonstrated for the first time.

5 As a result of the work described herein, targets of the MAPK pathway in fungi (e.g., yeast) and, particularly, genes that show strong regulation by Tec1, a MAPK pathway-specific transcription factor, have been identified. These genes and their interaction with or regulation by Tec1 can be targeted in a method of modulating (inhibiting or enhancing) the developmental switch between haploid invasive growth
10 and diploid filamentation. Compounds or molecules which modulate these genes, directly or through their regulation by Tec1, can be identified by means, for example, of an assay in which one or more of the genes (e.g., a gene encoding PGUI) is expressed in an appropriate host cell and the effects of a candidate modulator (inhibitor or enhancer) on its expression are determined. Candidate modulators shown to decrease expression
15 are inhibitors of a gene shown, as described herein, to be regulated by Tec1; candidate modulators shown to increase expression are enhancers of such a Tec1-regulated gene. In addition, the TOT10/YEL033W gene, shown, as described herein, to participate in a regulatory circuit between yeast and a host (e.g., a plant host) can be targeted to modulate (decrease or increase) yeast-host interaction. It can be targeted, for example,
20 to inhibit yeast invasion and/or filamentation and, thus, to inhibit adverse effects of fungi, including pathogenic and nonpathogenic yeast. Inhibitors (or enhancers) of TOT10/YEL033W can be identified, for example, in an assay in which the gene is expressed in an appropriate host cell and the effects of candidate inhibitors (or
25 enhancers) are assessed. Inhibition of TOT10/YEL033W, directly or indirectly (e.g., by inhibiting a gene or the product of a gene with which TOT10/YEL033W interacts) will result in inhibition of invasion and/or filamentation. Inhibitors and enhancers of genes regulated by Tec1 and inhibitors of TOT10/YEL033W are the subject of this invention.

Compounds or molecules which activate or inhibit PGUI can also be identified. For example, activators of this pectinase can be identified by expressing PGUI in an

appropriate host cell (e.g., a bacterial or yeast cell), contacting the cells with (e.g., by culturing them in the presence of) candidate activators (compounds or molecules to be assessed for their effects on PGUI activity) and determining their effect on PGUI (e.g., whether they enhance or activate PGUI expression or activity, repress or decrease PGUI expression or activity or have no effect). Compounds which enhance or activate PHUI expression or activity are activators; those which repress or decrease its expression or activity are inhibitors). Activators and inhibitors of PGUI are also the subject of this invention.

Also the subject of this invention is a method of inhibiting (totally or partially) invasion of a host, particularly a plant host by a fungus (i.e., a method of inhibiting fungal invasion of a host). In the method, a compound or molecule which inhibits the MAPK pathway or specifically inhibits TOT10/YELO33W is applied to a host (e.g., by application to a plant surface) in such a manner that it contacts the fungus (e.g., the yeast) and inhibits one or more components of the MAPK pathway, such as TOT10/YELO33W. For example, an inhibitor can be a compound which binds and inhibits TOT10/YELO33W; galacturonic acid; or a mimic of galacturonic acid which represses TOT10/YELO33W. In a specific embodiment, the method of inhibiting fungal invasion of a host comprises contacting a fungus (e.g., a yeast) with a compound which inhibits the MAPK pathway and/or inhibits TOT10/YELO33W, in sufficient quantity that inhibition of the MAPK pathway and/or inhibition of TOT10/YELO33W occurs, thereby inhibiting fungal invasion of the host. In a further embodiment, the host is a plant and the compound is applied to a plant surface (e.g., root, leaf, stem) or seed in such a manner that it contacts the fungus and inhibits (totally or partially) the ability of the fungus to invade.

25 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 shows genetic expression profiles of 18 genes regulated by the filamentation MAPK pathway.

Figure 2 lists MAPK pathway targets.

Figure 3 summarizes results of systematic knockout experiments.

Figure 4 is a photograph of results of an assay showing that filamentation MAPK pathway controls pectinolysis via PGUI.

Figure 5 shows genes selectively induced by the plant-specific carbohydrate polygalacturonic acid and its hydrolysis product.

Figure 6 shows genes selectively repressed by the plant-specific carbohydrate polygalacturonic acid and its hydrolysis product.

Figure 7 is a compilation of MAPK data, sorted as TEC1-high copy/*tec1*Δ.

Figure 8 shows results of profiling experiments with polygalacturonic acid (PGA) and galacturonic acid (GA), sorted by PGA/YPD.

Figure 9 shows results of profiling experiments with polygalacturonic acid (PGA) and galacturonic acid (GA), sorted by GA/YPD.

Figure 10 shows a flow chart of homologous genes induced by the filamentation and mating MAPK pathways.

Figure 11 shows a listing of genes whose expression is reduced in *STE12*⁻, *STE7*⁻ but show greater than double an effect with *Tec1*.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Described herein is work carried out to identify and study the targets of the MAP kinase pathway in order to understand how signaling cascades control a developmental switch in this *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* model system. The pathway consists of four kinases *Ste20* (PAK), *Ste11* (MEKK), *Ste7* (MEK) and *Kss1* (MAPK), which display both positive and negative control over the pathway, as well as a heterodimeric transcription factor *Tec1-STE12*. *STE7*, *STE11* and *STE20* also participate in the yeast mating MAPK pathway. Global expression patterns in haploid cells under rich medium conditions were examined in the following mutants: wild type *tec1*Δ *Ste12*Δ, *Ste7*Δ, *TEC1*-overexpression, and *STE11-4* (an activated mutant of the MEKK). Expression profiling was carried out using nucleic acid arrays (chips) such as described in

WO95/11995. One chip set was used per sample (chips with obvious defects were redone).

18 genes were identified that show strong regulation by the pathway-specific transcription factor Tec1 (i.e. 3.5-20X difference in expression comparing TEC1-overexpression to *tec1* Δ). Almost all of these also show a consistent dependency on STE7, STE7, and STE12. One gene that was known previously to be regulated by the pathway, FLO11 (which encodes a cell surface protein required for pseudohyphal growth) is the second-most strongly regulated target. Detailed studies were performed on one of these targets, PGU1, which encodes a secreted carbohydrate-destroying enzyme. This enzyme breaks down a key component of plant cell walls, polygalacturonic acid (which is the main component of pectin).

Remarkably, galacturonic acid, the breakdown product of pectin, causes the strong repression of a gene, TOT10/YEL033W, which is turned on in the filamentation MAPK pathway and which these results have shown is required for invasion and filamentation. Thus, work described herein has identified a new regulatory circuit in yeast in which a signal from the host feeds back on the filamentation/invasion pathway. This is the first demonstration of a specific interaction between yeast and its plant host. Figures 1-11 show the data in detail.

Work described herein provides an analysis of data from haploid strains grown in rich medium conditions, and in diploid cells under nitrogen starvation conditions; that is, the conditions that promote pseudohyphal cells. Portion of this work was carried out to assess whether pseudohyphal cells respond to MAPK signaling differently compared to haploid cells. The experiments described compare the expression of strains overexpressing the transcription factor Tec1 to those lacking it. They extend the assessment of targets of the MAP kinase pathway in a yeast developmental switch in haploid cells to examination of signaling in diploid cells. The data (Tables 1 and 2) were analyzed using a floor of 20 and a maximum-minimum filter of 80. Genes showing a greater than two-fold change in duplicate samples are listed. The results indicate that a largely different set of genes is induced by the MAPK

pathway during pseudohyphal conditions. One striking exception is the *FLO11* gene, which is the gene most strongly induced both in haploids and diploids by the pathway. The other genes fall mainly into the categories of cell-cycle regulated genes (such as histones and PCNA), nitrogen scavenging factors (e.g., Dur3, Car2). A number of other
5 genes are regulated that do not at present fit into any pattern.

Accordingly, the invention relates to a method of inhibiting invasion of a host by a fungus, comprising contacting the fungus with a compound which inhibits expression of a gene expressed in the filamentation MAPK pathway and which enhances the filamentation MAPK pathway, in sufficient quantity that inhibition of the
10 expression of the gene occurs, thereby inhibiting invasion of the host by the fungus. In one embodiment, the host is a plant, and the compound is applied to a plant surface (e.g., a leaf, a root, a stem, a flower) in such a manner that it contacts the fungus. An effective amount of the compound can be determined empirically by assessing expression levels of the gene to be inhibited. In a preferred embodiment, the gene is
15 TOT10/YELO33W. In one embodiment, the fungus is a yeast, such as *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*.

Agents for use in the methods of the invention include nucleic acid molecules (e.g., antisense), polypeptides and proteins, antibodies and small organic molecules. Suitable formulations of agents for use in this invention can include, for example,
20 powders, liquids, aerosols, gels and other formulations known to the skilled artisan. The present invention also pertains to pharmaceutical compositions comprising agents identified according to the invention for use in the treatment of fungal invasion. For instance, the agent identified according to the present invention can be formulated with a physiologically acceptable medium to prepare a pharmaceutical composition. The
25 particular physiological medium may include, but is not limited to, water, buffered saline, polyols (e.g., glycerol, propylene glycol, liquid polyethylene glycol) and dextrose solutions. The optimum concentration of the active ingredient(s) in the chosen medium can be determined empirically, according to procedures well known to medicinal chemists, and will depend on the ultimate pharmaceutical formulation

desired. In organisms other than plants, methods of administration of pharmaceutical compositions include, but are not limited to, intradermal, intramuscular, intraperitoneal, intravenous, subcutaneous, oral and intranasal. Other suitable methods of introduction can also include rechargeable or biodegradable devices and slow release polymeric devices. The pharmaceutical compositions of this invention can also be administered as part of a combinatorial therapy with other agents.

The invention also relates to a method of inhibiting invasion of a host by a fungus, comprising contacting the fungus with a compound which alters activity of a gene product encoded by a gene expressed in the filamentation MAPK pathway, in sufficient quantity that alteration of the activity of said gene product occurs, thereby inhibiting invasion of the host by the fungus. For example, if the gene is one whose expression enhances (e.g., increases or potentiates) the filamentation MAPK pathway (e.g., a positive regulator of the pathway), then the compound should inhibit the expression of that gene. As used herein, inhibition is intended to include both qualitative and quantitative reduction, including complete abolishment. Conversely, if the gene is one whose expression inhibits (e.g., decreases or interferes with) the filamentation MAPK pathway (e.g., a negative regulator of the pathway), then the compound should enhance the expression of that gene. As used herein, enhancement is intended to include any qualitative or quantitative increase. For example, the gene can be TOT10/YELO33W.

Expression vectors for use in the invention typically contain a nucleic acid sequence of a gene of interest operably linked to at least one regulatory sequence. "Operably linked" is intended to mean that the nucleotide sequence is linked to a regulatory sequence in a manner which allow expression of the nucleic acid sequence.

Regulatory sequences are art-recognized and can be selected according to the host cell and type of expression (e.g., constitutive) to be obtained. Accordingly, the term "regulatory sequence" includes promoters, enhancers, and other expression control elements which are described in Goeddel, *Gene Expression Technology: Methods in Enzymology 185*, Academic Press, San Diego, CA (1990). It should be understood that

the design of the expression vector may depend on such factors as the choice of the host cell to be transformed and/or the type of protein desired to be expressed.

Prokaryotic and eukaryotic host cells transfected by the described vectors are also provided by this invention. For instance, cells which can be transfected with the
5 vectors of the present invention include, but are not limited to, bacterial cells such as *E. coli*, insect cells (baculovirus), or mammalian cells such as Chinese hamster ovary cells (CHO). Ligating the polynucleotide sequence into a gene construct, such as an expression vector, and transforming or transfecting into hosts, either eukaryotic (avian, insect or mammalian) or prokaryotic (bacterial cells), are standard procedures (see, for
10 example, Broach, *et al.*, *Experimental Manipulation of Gene Expression*, ed. M. Inouye (Academic Press, 1983) p. 83; *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*, 2nd Ed., ed. Sambrook *et al.* (Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, 1989) Chapters 16 and 17).

The invention also relates to a method of identifying an agent which inhibits the filamentation MAPK pathway in a fungus, comprising the steps of providing an
15 expression vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule of a gene which is expressed in the filamentation MAPK pathway; transforming a suitable host cell with said expression vector under conditions suitable for expression of said gene contacting said host cell with an agent to be tested; and comparing the expression of said gene in the presence of the agent with the expression of said gene in the absence of said agent, wherein if the
20 expression of said gene is lower in the presence of the agent than in the absence of the agent, then the agent is an inhibitor of the filamentation MAPK pathway in a fungus. In one embodiment, the gene is TOT10/YELO33W.

Genes which are expressed in the filamentation MAPK pathway can be identified by standard methods in the art. In one embodiment, the gene is identified by
25 expression profiling as having repressed expression in the presence of galacturonic acid as compared with in the absence of galacturonic acid. In another embodiment, the gene can be identified by expression profiling as being expressed in haploid fungal cells and not expressed in diploid fungal cells, or as being repressed by Tec1 expression.

The invention also relates to a method of inhibiting fungal filamentation, comprising contacting the fungus with a compound which inhibits expression of a gene expressed in the filamentation MAPK pathway, in sufficient quantity that inhibition of the expression of the gene occurs, thereby inhibiting filamentation by the fungus.

5 The invention further relates to a method of identifying an agent which modulates PGUI gene expression, comprising the steps of providing an expression vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule encoding PGUI; transforming a suitable host cell with said expression vector under conditions suitable for expression of PGUI; contacting said host cell with an agent to be tested; and comparing the expression of
10 PGUI in the presence of the agent with the expression of PGUI in the absence of said agent, wherein a difference in the expression of PGUI in the presence of the agent as compared with in the absence of the agent indicates that the agent modulates PGUI expression.

15 The invention also includes a method of reducing the adverse effects of fungal invasion of a host, comprising administering to the host an effective amount of an agent which inhibits PGUI expression in the fungus.

20 The invention further includes a method of inhibiting invasion of a host by a fungus, comprising contacting the fungus with a compound which enhances expression of a gene expressed in the filamentation MAPK pathway and which inhibits the pathway, in sufficient quantity that enhancement of the expression of the gene occurs, thereby inhibiting invasion of the host by the fungus.

25 While this invention has been particularly shown and described with references to preferred embodiments thereof, it will be understood by those skilled in the art that various changes in form and details may be made therein without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as defined by the appended claims.

Table 1

PSEUDOHYPHAL CONDITIONS

gene	Information
<i>FLO11 (YIR019C)</i>	GPI-anchored cell surface flocculin req'd for invasion
<i>DUR3 (YHL016C)</i>	Urea Permease
<i>HTA2 (YBL003C)</i>	Histone H2A
<i>HTB2 (YBL002W)</i>	Histone H2B
<i>ORF YNL300W</i>	GPI-anchored S/T rich protein
<i>ORF YOL162W</i>	Allantoate permease family
<i>ORF YLL057C</i>	Similar to <i>E. coli</i> taurine dioxygenase
<i>SVS1 (YPL163C)</i>	S/T rich protein req'd for vanadate resistance
<i>ORF YOL163W</i>	Allantoate permease family
<i>CAR2 (YLR438W)</i>	Ornithine aminotransferase, arginine catabolism
<i>TSL1 (YML100W)</i>	Trehalose-6-phosphate synthase/phosphatase subunit
<i>PRY2 (YKR013W)</i>	Homolog of Plant Pathogen-Induced Gene
<i>POL30 (YBR088C)</i>	PCNA, DNA Replication, Repair and Cell Cycle Factor
<i>PDC6 (YGR087C)</i>	Pyruvate decarboxylase: isobutyl alcohol formation
<i>ORF YOR247W</i>	S/T rich protein related to Svs1

Floor=20, max-min>80,max/min>2, TEC1HC/*tec1*Δ>2 for both chip sets

Table 2

PSEUDOHYPHAL CONDITIONS

gene	tec1KO A	TEC1HC A	tec1KO B	tec1HC B
<i>FLO11 (YIR019C)</i>	46	505	61	471
<i>DUR3 (YHL016C)</i>	20	105	53	116
<i>HTA2 (YBL003C)</i>	29	145	32	180
<i>HTB2 (YBL002W)</i>	122	559	184	617
<i>ORF YNL300W</i>	349	1281	340	1031
<i>ORF YOL162W</i>	44	160	66	151
<i>ORF YLL057C</i>	64	227	63	243
<i>SVS1 (YPL163C)</i>	129	453	112	370
<i>ORF YOL163W</i>	53	160	43	179
<i>CAR2 (YLR438W)</i>	49	138	43	165
<i>TSL1 (YML100W)</i>	148	399	175	373
<i>PRY2 (YKR013W)</i>	436	1148	472	1012
<i>POL30 (YBR088C)</i>	129	313	103	261
<i>PDC6 (YGR087C)</i>	129	276	78	270
<i>ORF YOR247W</i>	669	1372	485	1323

Floor=20, max-min>80,max/min>2, TEC1HC/*tec1*Δ>2 for both chip sets

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of inhibiting invasion of a host by a fungus, comprising contacting the fungus with a compound which inhibits expression of a gene expressed in the filamentation MAPK pathway and which enhances said pathway, in sufficient quantity that inhibition of the expression of said gene occurs, thereby inhibiting invasion of the host by the fungus.
2. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the gene is TOT10/YELO33W.
3. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the host is a plant and the compound is applied to a plant surface in such manner that it contacts the fungus.
4. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the fungus is a yeast.
5. A method of inhibiting invasion of a host by a fungus, comprising contacting the fungus with a compound which inhibits activity of a gene product encoded by a gene expressed in the filamentation MAPK pathway, in sufficient quantity that inhibition of the activity of said gene product occurs, thereby inhibiting invasion of the host by the fungus.
6. A method according to Claim 5 wherein the gene is TOT10/YELO33W.
7. A method according to Claim 5 wherein the host is a plant and the compound is applied to a plant surface in such manner that it contacts the fungus.
8. A method according to Claim 5 wherein the fungus is a yeast.

9. A method of identifying an agent which inhibits the filamentation MAPK pathway in a fungus, comprising the steps of:
- a) providing an expression vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule of a gene which is expressed in the filamentation MAPK pathway;
 - 5 b) transforming a suitable host cell with said expression vector under conditions suitable for expression of said gene;
 - c) contacting said host cell with an agent to be tested; and
 - d) comparing the expression of said gene in the presence of the agent with the expression of said gene in the absence of said agent,
- 10 wherein if the expression of said gene is lower in the presence of the agent than in the absence of the agent, then the agent is an inhibitor of the filamentation MAPK pathway in a fungus.
10. A. method according to Claim 9, wherein the gene is TOT10/YELO33W.
11. A method according to Claim 9, wherein the fungus is yeast.
- 15 12. A method according to Claim 9, wherein the gene is identified by expression profiling as having repressed expression in the presence of galacturonic acid.
13. A method according to Claim 9, wherein the gene is identified by expression profiling as being expressed in haploid fungal cells and not expressed in diploid fungal cells.
- 20 14. A method of inhibiting fungal filamentation, comprising contacting the fungus with a compound which inhibits expression of a gene expressed in the filamentation MAPK pathway, in sufficient quantity that inhibition of the expression of said gene occurs, thereby inhibiting filamentation by the fungus.

15. A method of identifying an agent which modulates PGUI gene expression, comprising the steps of:
- a) providing an expression vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule encoding PGUI;
 - 5 b) transforming a suitable host cell with said expression vector under conditions suitable for expression of PGUI;
 - c) contacting said host cell with an agent to be tested; and
 - d) comparing the expression of PGUI in the presence of the agent with the expression of PGUI in the absence of said agent,
- 10 wherein a difference in the expression of PGUI in the presence of the agent as compared with in the absence of the agent indicates that the agent modulates PGUI expression.
16. A method of reducing the adverse effects of fungal invasion of a host, comprising administering to the host an effective amount of an agent which
- 15 inhibits PGUI expression in the fungus.
17. A method of inhibiting invasion of a host by a fungus, comprising contacting the fungus with a compound which enhances expression of a gene expressed in the filamentation MAPK pathway and which inhibits said pathway, in sufficient quantity that enhancement of the expression of said gene occurs, thereby
- 20 inhibiting invasion of the host by the fungus.
18. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the fungus is a yeast.

TARGETS OF THE MAP KINASE PATHWAY IN THE DEVELOPMENTAL SWITCH IN YEAST

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Assessment of targets of the MAP kinase pathway in the developmental switch
5 between haploid invasive growth and diploid pseudohyphal development in fungi, and
identification of genes that show strong regulation by a MAPK pathway-specific
transcription factor, Tec1, are described. Also described are methods of identifying an
agent which inhibits the filamentation MAPK pathway in a fungus, and methods of
inhibiting filamentation of a fungus or invasion of a host by a fungus.

Patent # 6,930,450

Genetic Expression Profiles of 18 Genes Regulated by the Filamentation MAPK Pathway

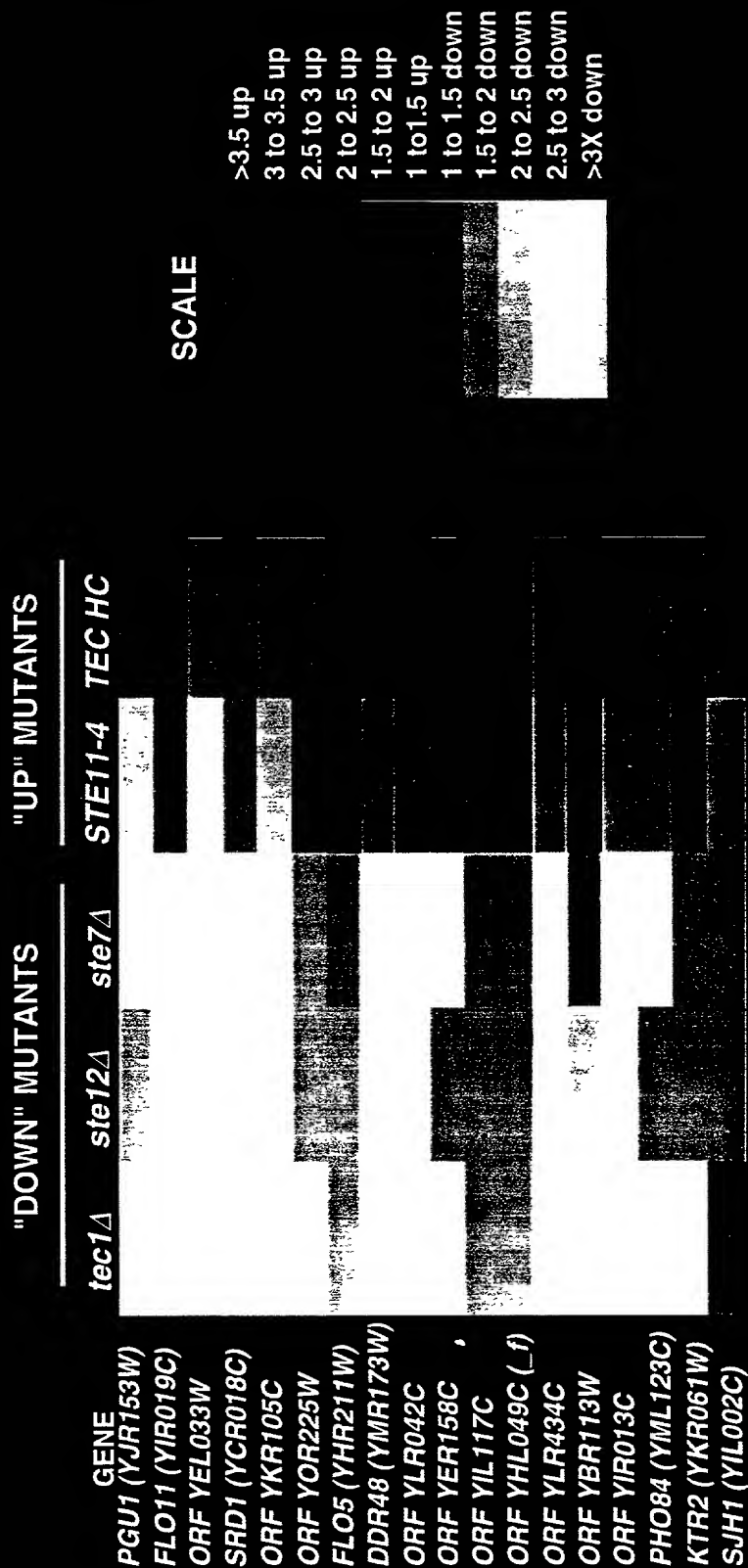


Figure 1

MAPK Targets Include Proteins Known or Predicted to Enter the Secretory Pathway

<i>PGU1</i>	secreted endopolygalacturonase
<i>FLO11</i>	GPI-linked cell surface adhesion factor
<i>TOT10/YEL033W</i>	novel
<i>SRD1</i>	Zinc finger protein
<i>TOT12/YKR105C</i>	putative permease
<i>TOT13/YOR225W</i>	putative membrane protein
<i>FLO5</i>	GPI-linked cell surface adhesion factor
<i>DDR48</i>	cell surface protein
<i>TOT11/YLR042C</i>	GPI-linked cell surface protein
<i>TOT7/YER158C</i>	Homolog of mating morphogenesis protein Afr1
<i>TOT8/YIL117C</i>	Homolog of Chitin Synthase III subunit
<i>TOT20/YHL049C</i>	telomeric protein family member
<i>TOT15/YLR434C</i>	novel
<i>TOT14/YBR113W</i>	putative membrane protein
<i>TOT9/YIR013C</i>	Zinc finger protein
<i>PHO84</i>	phosphate transporter, sugar permease family
<i>KTR2</i>	protein mannosyltransferase homolog
<i>SJH1</i>	Sac1-related inositol phosphate 5-phosphatase homolog

Figure 2

Sytematic Knockout Experiments

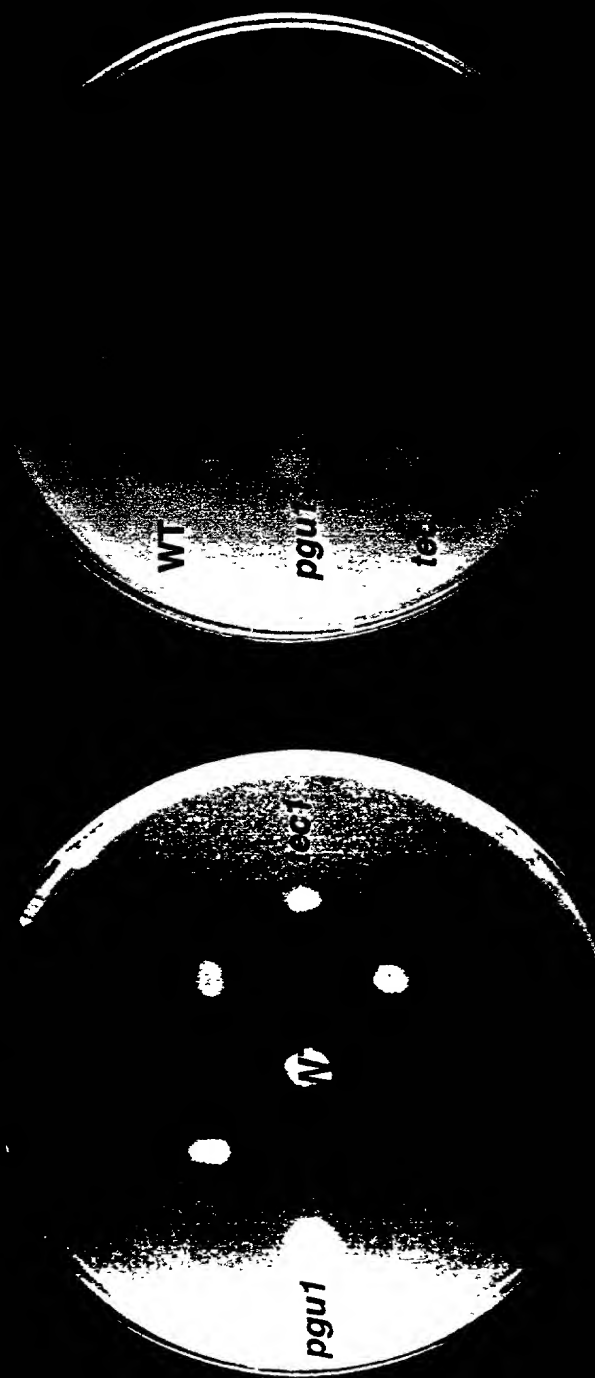
GENE	Haploid Invasion	Diploid Filamentation
<i>PGU1</i>	+++	+++
<i>FLO11</i>	-	-
<i>TOT10/YEL033W</i>	+	+
<i>SRD1</i>	ND	ND
<i>TOT12/YKR105C</i>	+++	+++
<i>TOT13/YOR225W</i>	+++	+++
<i>FLO5</i>	+++	+++
<i>DDR48</i>	+++	+++
<i>TOT11/YLR042C</i>	+++	+++
<i>TOT7/YER158C</i>	+++	+++
<i>TOT8/YIL117C</i>	+++	+++
<i>TOT20/YHL049C</i>	ND	ND
<i>TOT15YLR434C</i>	+++	+++
<i>TOT14/YBR113W</i>	+++	+++
<i>TOT9/YIR013C</i>	+++	+++
<i>PHO84</i>	+++	+++
<i>KTR2</i>	+++	+++
<i>SJH1</i>	+++	+++

Figure 3

Filamentation MAPK Pathway Controls Pectinolysis via PGU1

epistasis

null phenotypes



2 days

7 days

Figure 4

Gene Induction by the Plant-Specific Carbohydrate Polygalacturonic Acid and Its Hydrolysis Product

Genes Selectively Induced by Polygalacturonic Acid

gene	GA/-	PGA/-	Protein Information
<i>XBP1</i>	2.40	6.65	Stress-induced transcriptional repressor
<i>YHR217C</i> (f)	1.30	6.00	Protein of unknown function
<i>YPL080C</i>	2.80	5.70	Protein of unknown function
<i>YPR098C</i>	1.16	5.49	Protein of unknown function
<i>YHL040C</i>	2.04	5.00	Putative MFS Permease
<i>YOL080C</i>	1.35	4.74	Protein with similarity to Rnh70p and Pan2p
<i>PHO84</i>	1.39	4.70	phosphate transport, sugar permease homolog*
<i>YMR293C</i>	1.29	4.07	Protein with similarity to amidase
<i>YLR184W</i>	1.33	3.24	Protein of unknown function
<i>YIL011W</i>	1.01	3.01	Protein with similarity to PAU1 family
<i>CYT1</i>	1.02	2.82	Cytochrome c1
<i>ATP11</i>	1.29	2.65	F1-ATP synthase assembly protein
<i>YOR091W</i>	1.17	2.51	Protein of unknown function
<i>PAU3</i>	1.02	2.46	Stress-induced protein of the PAU1 family
<i>SKO1</i>	0.47	2.35	ATF/CREB transcriptional repressor
<i>MSI4</i>	0.73	2.06	Rab guanine nucleotide dissociation inhibitor

Regulated by Filamentation MAPK Pathway*

Genes Selectively Induced by Galacturonic Acid

gene	GA/-	PGA/-	Protein Information
<i>VPS1</i>	4.03	1.69	Vacuolar sorting protein, dynamin GTPase

Figure 5

Gene Repression by the Plant-Specific Carbohydrate Polygalacturonic Acid and its Hydrolysis Product

Genes Selectively Repressed by Polygalacturonic Acid			
gene	GA/-	PGA/-	Protein Information
<i>COP1/SEC33</i>	0.63	0.17	alpha subunit of coatamer complex
<i>YOL002C</i>	1.36	0.18	Protein of unknown function
<i>YDL173W</i>	0.96	0.24	Protein of unknown function
<i>COQ2</i>	1.37	0.25	coenzyme Q (ubiquinone) biosynthesis
<i>YIL176C (-f)</i>	0.86	0.30	Protein with similarity to PAU1 family
<i>YFL032W</i>	0.80	0.30	Protein of unknown function
<i>RPS33A</i>	1.10	0.34	Ribosomal protein S28A
<i>ARC35</i>	1.25	0.39	Component of ARP2/3 complex
<i>RPS26A</i>	0.87	0.39	Ribosomal protein S26A
<i>RPS10A</i>	1.02	0.46	Ribosomal protein S10A

Genes Selectively Repressed by Galacturonic Acid			
gene	GA/-	PGA/-	Protein Information
<i>YEL033W</i>	0.12	0.38	Protein of unknown function*
<i>VID24</i>	0.24	1.46	Vacuolar import and degradation of Fbp1
<i>NDC1</i>	0.29	1.02	Spindle pole body duplication factor
<i>SKO1</i>	0.47	2.35	ATF/CREB transcriptional repressor

*Regulated by the Filamentation MAPK Pathway

Figure 6

NAME=GA						
gene	YPD	GA	PGA	GAYPD	PGAYPD	
ORF YIL101C	20	48	133	2.40	6.65	
ORF YLR344W exon 1 (_i)	33	138	208	4.18	6.30	
ORF YHR217C (_r_i)	20	29	120	1.45	6.00	
ORF YHR217C (_f)	20	26	120	1.30	6.00	
ORF YPL080C	20	56	114	2.80	5.70	
ORF YPR098C	37	43	203	1.16	5.49	
ORF YHL040C	27	55	135	2.04	5.00	
ORF YOL080C	23	31	109	1.35	4.74	
PHO84 (YML123C)	33	46	155	1.39	4.70	
ORF YMR293C	28	36	114	1.29	4.07	
ORF YLR184W	66	88	214	1.33	3.24	
ORF YIL011W	153	154	460	1.01	3.01	
ORF YJR027W exon 2 (_f)	156	351	459	2.25	2.94	
CYT1 (YOR065W)	91	93	257	1.02	2.82	
ORF YLL025W (_f)	251	355	693	1.41	2.76	
ORF YML039W exon 2 (_f)	192	486	524	2.53	2.73	
ATP11 (YNL315C)	51	66	135	1.29	2.65	
ORF YOR091W	59	69	148	1.17	2.51	
ORF YMR143W exon 1 (_i)	385	895	964	2.32	2.50	
ORF YJR029W exon 2 (_f)	71	95	175	1.34	2.46	
PAU3 (YCR104W) (_f)	180	184	443	1.02	2.46	
SKO1 (YNL167C)	43	20	101	0.47	2.35	
PRE3 (YJL001W) exon 1	112	166	241	1.48	2.15	
ORF YMR045C exon 2 (_f)	93	132	197	1.42	2.12	
ORF YNL006W	77	100	161	1.30	2.09	
MSI4 (YOR370C)	63	46	130	0.73	2.06	
ORF YPR139C	91	122	187	1.34	2.05	
SPO15 (YKR001C)	35	141	59	4.03	1.69	
HHO1 (YPL127C)	81	45	135	0.56	1.67	
ILV3 (YJR016C)	119	72	182	0.61	1.53	
ORF YBR105C	82	20	120	0.24	1.46	
LYS4 (YDR234W)	479	244	576	0.51	1.20	
ORF YOR009W	144	310	158	2.15	1.10	
NDC1 (YML031W)	113	33	115	0.29	1.02	
ORF YOL073C	143	180	88	1.26	0.62	
ORF YJL223C (_f)	134	175	81	1.31	0.60	
ORF YMR242C	1170	1227	610	1.05	0.52	
ORF YOR248W (_f)	497	422	239	0.85	0.48	
ORF YPL081W exon 1	159	135	75	0.85	0.47	
ORF YML019W	177	91	82	0.51	0.46	
ORF YOR293W exon 1 (_f)	3170	3237	1446	1.02	0.46	
ORF YMR050C exon 1 (_f)	374	263	169	0.70	0.45	
RPS26A (YGL189C)	11511	9978	4526	0.87	0.39	
ORF YNR035C	200	249	78	1.25	0.39	
ORF YEL033W	172	20	66	0.12	0.38	
TSL1 (YML100W)	103	20	39	0.19	0.38	
RPS33A (YOR167C) (_f)	1726	1899	589	1.10	0.34	
ORF YFL032W	122	98	37	0.80	0.30	
ORF YIL176C (_f)	115	99	34	0.86	0.30	
COQ2 (YNR041C)	84	115	21	1.37	0.25	
ORF YDL173W	141	136	34	0.96	0.24	
ORF YOL002C	111	151	20	1.36	0.18	
ORF YDL145C	118	74	20	0.63	0.17	
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Figure 8

NAME=GA						
gene	YPD	GA	PGA	GA/YPD	PGA/YPD	
ORF YLR344W exon 1 (_i)	33	138	208	4.18	6.30	
SPO15 (YKR001C)	35	141	59	4.03	1.69	
ORF YPL080C	20	56	114	2.80	5.70	
ORF YML039W exon 2 (_f)	192	486	524	2.53	2.73	
ORF YIL101C	20	48	133	2.40	6.65	
ORF YMR143W exon 1 (_i)	385	895	964	2.32	2.50	
ORF YJR027W exon 2 (_f)	156	351	459	2.25	2.94	
ORF YOR009W	144	310	158	2.15	1.10	
ORF YHL040C	27	55	135	2.04	5.00	
PRE3 (YJL001W) exon 1	112	166	241	1.48	2.15	
ORF YHR217C (_r_i)	20	29	120	1.45	6.00	
ORF YMR045C exon 2 (_f)	93	132	197	1.42	2.12	
ORF YLL025W (_f)	251	355	693	1.41	2.76	
PHO84 (YML123C)	33	46	155	1.39	4.70	
COQ2 (YNR041C)	84	115	21	1.37	0.25	
ORF YOL002C	111	151	20	1.36	0.18	
ORF YOL080C	23	31	109	1.35	4.74	
ORF YPR139C	91	122	187	1.34	2.05	
ORF YJR029W exon 2 (_f)	71	95	175	1.34	2.46	
ORF YLR184W	66	88	214	1.33	3.24	
ORF YJL223C (_f)	134	175	81	1.31	0.60	
ORF YHR217C (_f)	20	26	120	1.30	6.00	
ORF YNL006W	77	100	161	1.30	2.09	
ATP11 (YNL315C)	51	66	135	1.29	2.65	
ORF YMR293C	28	36	114	1.29	4.07	
ORF YOL073C	143	180	88	1.26	0.62	
ORF YNR035C	200	249	78	1.25	0.39	
ORF YOR091W	59	69	148	1.17	2.51	
ORF YPR098C	37	43	203	1.16	5.49	
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PAU3 (YCR104W) (_f)	180	184	443	1.02	2.46	
CYT1 (YOR065W)	91	93	257	1.02	2.82	
ORF YOR293W exon 1 (_f)	3170	3237	1446	1.02	0.46	
ORF YIL011W	153	154	460	1.01	3.01	
ORF YDL173W	141	136	34	0.96	0.24	
RPS26A (YGL189C)	11511	9978	4526	0.87	0.39	
ORF YIL176C (_f)	115	99	34	0.86	0.30	
ORF YOR248W (_f)	497	422	239	0.85	0.48	
ORF YPL081W exon 1	159	135	75	0.85	0.47	
ORF YFL032W	122	98	37	0.80	0.30	
MSI4 (YOR370C)	63	46	130	0.73	2.06	
ORF YMR050C exon 1 (_f)	374	263	169	0.70	0.45	
ORF YDL145C	118	74	20	0.63	0.17	
ILV3 (YJR016C)	119	72	182	0.61	1.53	
HHO1 (YPL127C)	81	45	135	0.56	1.67	
ORF YML019W	177	91	82	0.51	0.46	
LYS4 (YDR234W)	479	244	576	0.51	1.20	
SKO1 (YNL167C)	43	20	101	0.47	2.35	
NDC1 (YML031W)	113	33	115	0.29	1.02	
ORF YBR105C	82	20	120	0.24	1.46	
TSL1 (YML100W)	103	20	39	0.19	0.38	
ORF YEL033W	172	20	66	0.12	0.38	
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Figure 9

Homologous Genes Induced by Filamentation and Mating MAPK Pathways

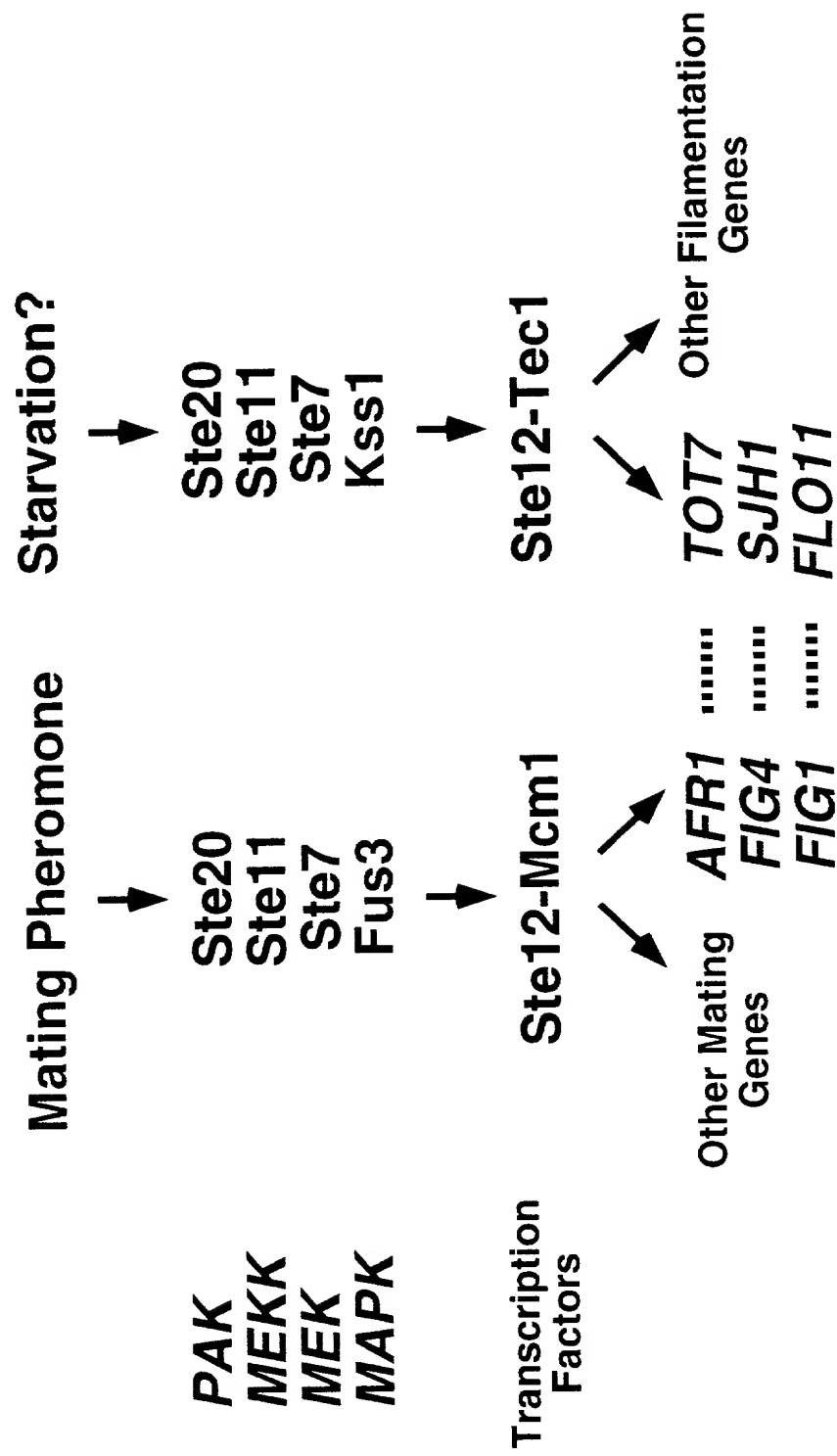


Figure 10

Gene	WT	tec1	ste12	ste7	tec1hc	STE11-4	YPD Tule Lines
MFA1 (YDR461W)	3803	5138	20	20	3378	2262	Mating pheromone a-factor, exported from cell by Ste6p
ANB1 (YJR047C)	1285	1668	31	110	1090	39	Mating pheromone a-factor, exported from cell by Ste6p
HIS3 (YOR202W)	334	317	34	60	378	73	Translation initiation factor eIF5A, contains essential lysine modification
MFA2 (YNL145W)	7879	6017	821	1993	4780	4674	Mating pheromone a-factor, exported from cell by Ste6p
STE2 (YGL026W)	866	1169	121	178	802	598	Pheromone alpha-factor receptor, seven-transmembrane domain protein
ORF YDL120W	118	102	20	49	117	59	Mitochondrial protein involved in regulatory function and iron homeostasis, homolog of human fraxin which is defective in 1 redox h's aluxia
ORF YIL121W	286	169	52	119	212	258	Member of major facilitator superfamily (MFS) multidrug resistance (MFS-MDR) protein family
ORF YOL026C	108	140	20	28	127	83	Protein of unknown function
ORF YKL120W	906	714	168	217	741	1989	Protein with similarity to members of the mitochondrial carrier (MTC) family
COS6 (YGR286C)	639	480	122	131	415	130	Protein with strong similarity to other subunit-terminally-extended proteins such as Cus5p, Yip30p, Cus3p, Cus4p, Cus6p, Cus7p
CHS2 (YGR038W)	104	76	20	20	60	60	Chitin synthase II, responsible for primary septum disk
ORF YLR437C	103	48	20	20	58	34	Protein of unknown function
ORF YDL105W	102	48	21	20	78	20	Protein of unknown function
GPA1 (YHR005C)	168	124	37	51	75	39	Chemical nucleotide binding protein alpha subunit of the pheromone response pathway
ORF YKL137W	117	59	27	30	67	55	Protein of unknown function
AGA2 (YGL026C)	299	538	69	64	342	1990	Protein of unknown function
ORF YHR214W (L)	107	64	25	25	104	114	Protein of unknown function (YAR066W and YHR214W code for identical proteins)
PDR12 (YPL058C)	2205	1865	519	489	1758	3671	3-hydroxyisovalate dehydratase, second step in lysine biosynthesis pathway
LEU1 (YGL009C)	198	172	47	62	115	134	Protein with similarity to Pab3p and Ste2p, member of the ATP-binding cassette (ABC) superfamily
MEP2 (YNL142W)	258	244	65	52	151	357	Inhibitor of Cln2p-Cln1p and Cln2p-Cln3p kinase complexes involved in cell cycle arrest for mating
MEP3 (YLR016C)	156	115	40	33	227	123	Ammonia permease of low capacity and high affinity
ILV3 (YJR016C)	979	785	256	268	1012	1158	Ammonia permease of high capacity and low affinity
NOP4 (YPL043W)	114	98	30	29	107	28	Nucleolar protein required for ribosome biogenesis, has 3 conserved RNA recognition (RRM) domains and one degenerate RNA recognition (RRM) domain
ADE5,7 (YGL234W)	511	313	137	114	467	107	Dihydroxyacetone dehydratase (DAD), third step in valine and isoleucine biosynthesis pathway
ORF YMR304C-A	72	86	20	20	110	27	Protein for which overproduction suppresses bud emergence defect of cdc24 mutant
MSB2 (YGR014W)	71	89	20	20	107	38	Protein required for high temperature growth, recovery from alpha-factor arrest, and normal lifespan of yeast cells
MPT5 (YGL178W) exon 1	129	89	37	71	45	200	Protein required for maintenance of cell wall integrity and for the stress response
WCS2 (YNL289C)	251	190	72	125	257	632	Ribosomal protein S22B (yeast S24) (YSL2/yeast S15A) (RPS27A and RPS27B code for nearly identical proteins)
RPS24B (YLR367W) exon 1	617	747	186	277	651	302	Membrane transporter of ATP-binding cassette (ABC) superfamily responsible for export of a factor binding pheromone
STE8 (YNL209C)	143	143	44	41	134	529	Sixteen repeatable proteinase that degrades alpha-factor (bortezomib)
BAR1 (YIL015W)	148	165	46	20	120	20	1-ferrolyl-arginine deiminase (leukodulin, 1-ferrolyl-arginine dehydratase)
CHA1 (YGL064C)	77	124	24	21	78	623	Protein with similarity to Ste12p
ORF YER150W	678	374	217	221	452	1049	Protein with similarity to Baf2p and other glucan (C6H12O6) protein family
ORF YMR005C	1687	1494	541	601	1423	233	Member of major facilitator superfamily (MFS) multidrug resistance (MFS-MDR) protein family
ORF YPR156C	340	152	112	114	115	159	Low-affinity (LH) transporter protein
FEI4 (YMR318C)	245	310	81	78	324	129	Ammonia permease of high capacity and low affinity
MEP3 (YPR138C)	168	107	56	57	153	141	Protein with similarity to mep1 protein of S. pombe
ORF YBR214W	117	94	39	43	126	146	Protein of unknown function
ORF YGR151C (L)	398	421	134	130	487	513	Bernardine protein kinase of the MAP kinase family required for cell cycle arrest and for cell lysis during mating
FUS3 (YBL018W)	248	176	84	65	318	292	Protein of unknown function
ORF YOR203W	347	349	119	131	384		

Figure 11